Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all previous versions and listings of claims in this application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method implemented in an apparatus for reading from ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disks for retrieving a file system of ~~an exchangeable~~ a removable optical disk, the file system indicating the physical position of the content on the ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk, the method comprising:

upon insertion of an ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk into the apparatus, determining a signature of the ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk by measuring features based on a data pattern stored on the ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk, the signature including a plurality of elements;

comparing the signature with a plurality of signatures stored in a content database; and

retrieving the associated file system indicating the physical position of the content on the ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk from the content database if the signature is equal to a signature stored in the content database.

2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the comparing the signature with a plurality of signatures stored in a content database includes evaluating the distances between the determined signature and the signatures stored in the content database.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the determining the signature of the ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk and comparing the signature with a plurality of signatures include:

determining a first part of the signature including a plurality of elements;

comparing the first part of the signature with corresponding parts of the plurality of signatures stored in the content database;

determining a further part of the signature if the first part of the signature is equal to the corresponding part of at least one signature stored in the content database; and

comparing the further part of the signature with corresponding parts of the plurality of signatures stored in the content database.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein, in the comparing the signature with a plurality of signatures stored in a content database, a negative progressive search approach is employed, in which the elements of the determined signature are compared with the corresponding elements of the signatures stored in the content database one at a time, wherein a negative search result is concluded if there is no match between one ~~every~~ element of the signature and the same element of all the signatures stored in the content database ~~may yield a negative search result~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
obtaining the file system from the ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk if the determined signature is not equal to a signature stored in the content database; and
storing the obtained file system and the determined signature in the content database.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the signature is unique for every ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk.

7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the signature elements are selected from disk status such as open or closed disk, number of sessions or number of tracks in each session, from timing information such as the lead-in time of each session, the lead-out time of each session, total time of each session or subcode information of each track, or from data integrity such as data checksums of specific tracks.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for reading from and/or writing to ~~an exchangeable~~ a removable optical disk, wherein the apparatus includes at least one element adapted for retrieving a file system of the ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk, the file system indicating the physical position of the content on the ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk, by performing:

upon insertion of an ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk into the apparatus, determining a signature of the ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk by measuring features based on a data pattern stored on the ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk, the signature including a plurality of elements;

comparing the signature with a plurality of signatures stored in a content database; and

retrieving the associated file system indicating the physical position of the content on the ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk from the content database if the signature is equal to a signature stored in the content database.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the apparatus is adapted to perform the retrieval of the file system of the ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk after an occurrence of a condition selected from a group consisting of insertion of the ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk, transferral of the ~~exchangeable~~ removable optical disk into a playback position, and wake up from a power down mode.